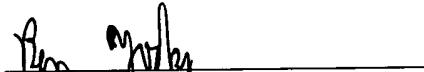


REMARKS

This application is a continuation of application No. 539,270 which received an Office Action dated May 12, 2003. In the Office Action, the Examiner had rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hood patent No. 5,533,999. The applicant has amended the specification to recite priority to the '999 patent. Both applications are assigned to the same assignee, Refractec, Inc. The applicant therefore submits that the '999 patent to Hood is not prior art. The Examiner had not cited any other prior art which would bar patentability. The applicant therefore requests allowance of claims 1-13.

Respectfully submitted,
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on October 7, 2003

 10/7/03
Wendy Jones Date